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Christine Rounds  
Typed or Printed Name of Person Sending Paper or Fee  
Christine Rounds October 15, 2003  
Signature Date

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the Application of )

Kevin J. Low, et al. )

for: RETAINER FOR BUTTRESSING AN )  
ELEMENT AND A METHOD FOR )  
PRODUCING THE RETAINER )

Serial No.: 10/040,144 )

Filed: January 3, 2002 )

) Examiner: Hien Thi Tran

) Group Art Unit: 1764

) Our Docket No.: 5814-56

*Hartford, Connecticut, October 15, 2003*

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In response to the Office Action mailed August 15, 2003, wherein the Examiner has required the election of claims alleged by the Examiner to embody distinct inventions, Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I for further prosecution on the merits. The claims of Group I, namely, claims 1-7, 20, and 21, as described by the Examiner, are drawn to a retainer.

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Applicants believe that the foregoing election fully complies with the Office Action and that all of the claims of the application are allowable. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Applicants hereby enclose a check in the amount \$55.00 for a one-month extension of time. Applicants believe that no other fees are due in connection with this Response. However, if any charges are incurred, they may be charged to Deposit Account No. 13-0235 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

By



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